

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical unit is provided to ensures what is called a night shot function and a night framing function, and to achieve considerable reduction in thickness and size of an optical barrel and a collapsible lens without using an infrared cutoff filter nor a drive mechanism for moving the filter in and out. The optical unit, including a fixed ring, a rear barrel, and a solid state image sensor disposed at a rear portion of the fixed ring, is provided with a liquid crystal panel or an electrochromic device placed at a front side portion on an optical axis of the solid state image sensor for adjusting an amount of infrared electromagnetic wave to be transmitted.